

## **INTRODUCTION TO HUMAN RIGHTS**

### **OVERVIEW**

This module is aimed at introducing lawyers, working towards the advancement of SOGIE rights, to the history and framework of human rights and its use as an effective tool that that citizens can use to challenge the state and hold it to account. The module will explore the concept of human rights, its historical development, challenges, and effective remedies.

### **OBJECTIVES**

1. To enhance the lawyers' knowledge and understanding of human rights discourse.
2. To build an appreciation of history, methods, and tactics for defending and enforcing human rights.

### **LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Upon completion of this module participants should:

1. Display an improved understanding of human rights framework and background to the right to remedy.
2. Be able to appreciate the value of upholding human rights discourse.
3. Understanding the importance and utility of human rights litigation as a way to hold governments accountable for human rights violations.
4. Have a sense of the current challenges to human rights, such as the "un-African" discourse to de-legitimise the human rights regime.

### **FORMAT & REQUIREMENTS**

The module will be delivered through combined methods such as interactive lectures, presentations, and practical exercises. Participants are required to engage with the materials prescribed on the reading list, prior to each session.

### **EVALUATION & ASSESSMENT**

Evaluation and assessment of each module will be carried out through the use of in session and post institute evaluations carried out by the Network Coordinator as well as next-day recaps.

### **OUTLINE**

- I. **An Introduction to Human Rights**
  - i. The post-WWII history of human rights
  - ii. State obligations
  - iii. Human rights framework

- iv. Right to remedy
- v. Why is it important to uphold human rights discourse?
- vi. Holding states accountable via human rights
- vii. Current challenges to human rights – is it “un-African”?